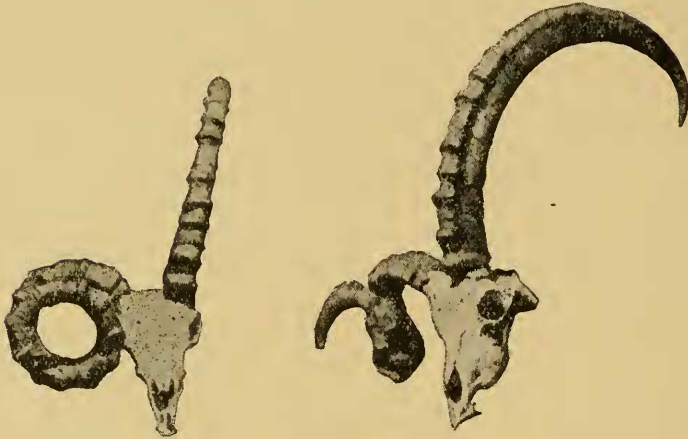


No. VIII.—ABNORMAL IBEX HEAD.

(With a block.)



The enclosed photograph of an abnormal Ibex head would, I think, interest readers of the Journal.

The animal was shot this year in the Shigar Nala, Baltistan, by Lt. D. Gaussen, R.A.F.

There was no abnormality observed in the animal which was in good condition.

It will be noticed that the core of the abnormal horn is deflected to the right from where it joins the skull. The shikari, a man of 30 years' experience, informed me that he had never before seen a head of this description.

The two horns measure the same : each 30 inches.

LT.-COL. R. W. BURTON.

BAREILLY,

14th November 1921.

No. IX.—AN ADDITION TO THE LIST OF INDIAN BIRDS.

An examination of the series of Bluethroats in my collection obtained in the Punjab has revealed the interesting fact that a new bird has to be added to the Indian list. The ordinary form of Bluethroat which is found in the Punjab plains as a passage migrant, and in a lesser degree winter visitor, is *Luscinia suecica pallidogularis* (Sar). A male obtained by me at Ferozepore on 5th February 1912, however proves to belong to the smaller, paler, form *Luscinia suecica discessa* (Mad.) which is the breeding bird of the Altai. This identification has kindly been confirmed by Dr. E. Hartert and Dr. C. Ticehurst.

A female bird obtained by me at Sirsa on 11th December 1914 also appears to belong to the same race, but the identification of female Bluethroats is

notoriously difficult and it is impossible to speak with any degree of certainty in their case.

HUGH WHISTLER, F.Z.S. C.F.A.O.U.

DHARMSALA, PUNJAB.

[In regard to the generic name of the Bluethroat we would call attention to the footnote, p. 713, Vol. XXVII, where Stuart Baker in his Hand List adopts *Cyanosylvia* (Brehm) instead of *Cyanecula* of Blanford. Hartert however includes *Cyanosylvia*, *Daulias*, and *Calliope* all under *Luscinia*.—EDITORS.]

No. X.—HABITS OF THE SOUTHERN SCIMITAR BABBLER
(*POMATORHINUS HORSFIELDI TRAVANCORIENSIS*).

While walking round the estate this morning my attention was drawn to a large gathering of birds at the edge of shola bordering the path. They were a mixed crowd and were making a tremendous noise. I could see no cause for the commotion in the shape of snake, owl, etc., and they seemed merely to have struck a rich supply of food. But what surprised me was that among them, not in the undergrowth but up in the trees, about 50 feet above the ground, was a flock of four or five Southern Scimitar Babblers (*Pomatorhinus horsfieldi travancoriensis*). I have never seen these birds anywhere except skulking in thick cover either under the coffee, or among the lower undergrowth of the jungle and I would never have thought of looking for them at the height these birds were. This "composite flock" consisted of S. Indian Tree-pies, Larger Racket-tailed Drongos, White-eyes, Red-whiskered Bulbuls, Yellow-browed Bulbuls, Orange Minivets, Grey-headed Flycatchers, the Scimitar Babblers and, among the undergrowth where they *should* have been, were Black-headed Babblers.

A. P. KINLOCH, F.Z.S.

NELLIAMPATHY HILLS,

6th August 1921.

No. XI.—NIDIFICATION OF THE SOUTHERN RED-WHISKERED
BULBUL (*OTOCOMPSA EMERIA FUSCICAUDATA*).

On the 22nd November of this year I found a deserted nest of the Southern Red-Whiskered Bulbul containing one egg $\cdot 89 \times \cdot 60''$, about 4' up in a coffee tree; on looking up references I was rather surprised to see that Oates gives the breeding season for this bird as "February to end of May and June" (*vide* "Fauna of British India," Birds, Vol. 1 and "Nests and Eggs" Vol. 1) as I recollected having previously found nests during the cold weather as well as in the hot weather (never, up here, in June). Unfortunately I found no reference in my notes.

On the 2nd December I found another nest containing two eggs, $\cdot 82 \times \cdot 69''$ and $\cdot 80 \times \cdot 69''$, on which the bird was sitting, so that on these hills the breeding season of this species is November-December and February-April.

A. P. KINLOCH, F.Z.S.

NELLIAMPATHY HILLS,

4th December 1921.